

St. Johnsbury Caledonian.



St. Johnsbury, Vt., Friday, Jan. 21, 1876.

The War Spirit Revived in Congress.

All candid men must regret the spirit which came to the surface in the debate on amnesty in Congress last week; but before giving indiscriminate censure, it is best to know the facts. What are they? As we understand them they are briefly as follows:

Ex-Speaker Blaine of Maine, in a speech upon the amnesty resolutions, opposes the pardon of Jeff Davis, and charges him with the responsibility of the barbarous treatment of Union soldiers in rebel prisons. He is followed by rebel Gen. Hill, who makes a most rabid secession speech, and charges the grossest inhumanities upon federal authorities in their treatment of confederate prisoners. In his outgrowth he was seconded by Cox of New York, and other democratic members.

Who was to blame for this revival of the secession spirit in Congress? Certainly not Mr. Blaine. It was perfectly in order for him to object to the full pardon of Jeff Davis, and also to give his reasons, which are now a matter of history. How did he know that he was treading so heavily on democratic toes when he excepted the President of the Confederacy from amnesty?

While all will not admit that Mr. Blaine's "smart" way is the best, it is his way, and he cannot change it. The sequel proved that he was too much for the opposition in parliamentary tactics as well as debate. The amnesty resolutions failed of passage, lacking but of a two-thirds vote. The determination of the opposition to force them through without amendment and debate, arrayed the republicans against them in such numbers as to kill them. Mr. Blaine then asked consent of the House to introduce his bill to amnesty all except Davis, saying that he knew of course it would be defeated, but he wanted it voted on, and would permit any amendments. "He" said, "the other side refuse this request, it is because they do not want any bill to pass."

But Randall and other democrats objected. Then Blaine once more dumfounded his opponents by withdrawing his motion to reconsider, which closed the debate, shutting off the democrats from any reply.

Portland Trade and Portland Traders.

We have called attention heretofore to the fact that the opening of the Portland & Ogdensburg Railroad through to Portland, would re-establish the line of exchange between that city and Northern Vermont and New Hampshire, which formerly prevailed, but which was broken when the railroads running north from Boston reached this section. This is being realized in a measure, as our readers already see Portland merchants in this place, and learn of Vermont buyers in Portland.

Portland has several advantages over any other market for certain commodities which are largely used in this section, the principal one being perhaps its shorter distance. There are other advantages, but this one is important with all heavy goods especially.

Besides the fact of its pecuniary advantage, the people of the northern portion of these states owe much to Portland, and this road for what it is to them. It has become a success through severe opposition. It has taxed the brains and pockets of many of the live men from Portland harbor to Manistique. Now, that, in all its essentials, it is accomplished, is there not something akin to duty resting upon it to complete success?

We again call attention to the cards of Portland business firms which appear in this paper. We intend to give more but those of reliable houses. We will speak now of only one of these, the firm of Dama & Co. The father of the present senior partner, established the firm in 1818. The senior commenced his apprenticeship in 1835, when the then firm of Dama & Smith transacted about all the business in their line that was carried on with northern New Hampshire and Vermont. In the almost seventy years of its existence, this house has sustained a reputation for reliability and fair dealing, and we are confident they will maintain it.

We may speak of some other Portland houses hereafter.

Agricultural Society.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Caledonian Agricultural Society was held at the town hall in this place, the 18th inst., president Kinerton in the chair.

After some preliminary talk, a committee of four from each town represented by so many, was appointed to bring in a list of officers.

The Treasurer's report showed the expenses of the Society to be \$286, and the receipts \$841, with some premiums unpaid.

The committee on nominations, brought forward the following list of officers,

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

President, J. R. Kinerton, Peacham; Vice Presidents, Joshua Bemis, Lyndon; C. J. Bell, Walden.

Secretaries, L. W. Sanborn, Russell Pease, H. C. Hastings, N. M. Johnson, C. D. Braintree, Cloud Harvey;

Treasurer, C. M. Stone, St. Johnsbury.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Barnet James Roy, Peter Lindsay, Wm. Adams, Cloud Harvey, J. Morrison.

Burke, H. M. Hall, David Trull, Wm. Belden, Geo. W. Woodruff, Joel Jenkins, C. T. A. Humphrey, L. Warren.

Cabot—L. C. Fisher, J. L. Severance, A. M. Foster.

Concord—A. K. Quincy, Hubbard Hastings, H. C. Woodward.

Danville—Jonathan Batchelder, J. G. Varnum, Wm. Bassett, W. G. Battell, John Sias, Benj. Greenbank C. L. Stevens, J. L. Fry.

Graton—Hosea Welch, John Orr, Jonathan Shoshone, W. A. Jackson, G. N. Drury.

Hanover—W. D. Bronson, Henry Blake, J. M. Stevens.

Kirby—Russell Bisley, P. W. Russell, Geo. Ford.

Lyndon—A. O. Harris, James Treat, Wm. P. Houghton, W. A. Bemis, A. O. Bemis, E. H. Hall, D. N. Trull, Newark, F. Woodruff, S. C. Walter, J. Wine, H. C. Parker.

Meredith—V. D. Moulton, Charles Gates, James McLaughlin, L. Strode.

Riverton—J. H. Currier, M. R. Gray, F. Nelson, James Nelson.

St. Johnsbury—Chas. Stark, A. S. Livingston, Emerson Hall, John Bacon, 2d, H. C. Hastings, A. R. Hoey, N. M. Johnson, E. P. Allen, Ira G. Smith, Jacob G. Hoey, Geo. C. Barney, David Willey.

Stefford—J. K. Knox, C. Simpson, Stephen—Peter Blaine.

Waterville—Nathaniel Way, N. K. Campbell, Bradford Willey.

Watford—E. A. Parks, Jonathan Lawrence, C. L. Davison, Amos Carpenter, Silvanus Owen, Willard Kinney, G. R. Barker.

Walden—J. C. Stanford, E. Osgood, J. B. Rogers.

Wheelock—Chas. Rogers, Henry Hoffman.

At Bristow Station we saw the cut and fill of the railroad, behind which Warren rushed his corps when A. P. Hill tried to cut him off from the rest of the army of the Potomac, in 1863. Hill did not succeed, but got whipped himself, and lost six guns. The windmill is gone. The bridge at Rappahannock station seems to have been rebuilt since 1863. When I saw it then it was well on fire.

The timber around Brandy Station has been cut off so that one hardly recognizes the position of three of the biggest cavalry fights of the war. Just this side of Culpeper, in the angle between the railroad and the Woodville Pike, are the grounds of the Piedmont Agricultural Association. One thing that impressed me as being a good thing and worth imitating in Vermont was the number of shade trees scattered about the grounds. At Culpeper I readily recognized the spot near the depot where a rebel gun stood and his command, and replied to Gen. Hill, "We cannot give much of his reply, but only an extract or two as specimens:

Mr. Blaine—We are told that all the allegations against Jefferson Davis were destroyed by the old, bitter, pro-slavery, southern sectional spirit that settled up through its as well as Mr. Blaine's crushing exhibition of his Confederate record.

One beneficial effect of Mr. Blaine's amendment and speech is to bring to the surface that ruling portion of the democracy composed in the representatives of the ex-Confederate element. There is no better specimen of these in the country than the editor of the Atlanta Constitution, who have made Jefferson Davis nothing but a legend, the leader of his party, to Georgia, and evidently an able, outspoken man. He was under bonds to his master, Northern种植者, when he used to speak on Tuesday, to be as discreet and mod-erate as he could be, and he doubtless made the effort, but with what wretched result? It is the south and each of the same old plantations so familiar to the Congress of fifteen years ago, and it avails not the efforts of that presbyterian church which it was supposed had faded away forever. *Atlanta Journal*.

Mr. Blaine—We are told that we should not revive them; that there should be nothing in the world that could be calculated to distract the peaceful serenity of the centennial year, that every allusion of this kind is calculated to do that very injurious thing.

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